

Elizabeth Dunbar, *Minnesota Public Radio*

At least one Minnesota member of Congress said Tuesday she opposes a deal on tax cuts reached by President Barack Obama and congressional Republicans.

Rep. Betty McCollum, a Democrat from St. Paul, called the plan "irresponsible" and said she would oppose it.

The deal reached Monday extends income tax cuts to all Americans, including the wealthy, for two years. It will also renew benefits for the long-term unemployed.

"This is a deal that will continue to explode the deficit while the rich get richer and struggling middle class families get crumbs," McCollum said in a written statement.

Democratic Rep. Collin Peterson and Democratic Sen. Al Franken were undecided on the tax deal on Tuesday.

"I know it's going to be a decision for him," said Alexandra Fetissoff, Franken's deputy press secretary.

Republican Rep. Michele Bachmann is waiting for the final version of the bill before committing.

"Our economy doesn't have a moment to waste and it's vital that we stop these tax increases now, but we cannot overlook the consequences of another unfunded extension of unemployment benefits," Bachmann said in a written statement.

The press secretaries for Minnesota's other House members did not immediately return messages seeking comment.

McCollum is one of Minnesota's more liberal members of Congress, and several other liberal

Democrats in Washington criticized the plan. Republicans, on the other hand, have praised the deal.

Check back later to see if other Minnesota members of Congress have decided whether to support the tax cut deal, which extends income tax cuts made when George W. Bush was president.

(MPR producer Curtis Gilbert contributed to this report.)